

**CITY OF SAN DIEGO
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
MEMORANDUM
(619) 533-4000**

DATE: June 17, 2005

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Charles Abdelnour, City Clerk

SUBJECT: Scheduling the Run-Off Election for Mayor

Late Wednesday afternoon, after City Clerk's Report # 05-05 was issued, the Registrar of Voters informed us that they would not be able to conduct a stand-alone election for the City on September 27, 2005, because of the substantial effort involved in conducting the Special Statewide Election on November 8, 2005. Therefore, a separate stand alone election is not an option for the run-off election for Mayor.

As noted in our report, it is clear that there will be substantial cost savings in consolidating with the November 8 special statewide election. The county's cost estimate for the election is \$6.5 million. There are currently three statewide measures qualified for the ballot and others are pending. The Registrar estimates that the city's portion of the election costs would be under \$1 million if there are only three state measures on the ballot. With 6 statewide measures, the city's costs would be closer to \$500,000.

The Registrar of Voters did inform the City Attorney's Office that they could, if pressed, do a mail ballot election for the city. The cost estimate for such an election would be \$1.5 million. The Clerk's Office would not recommend this option because of the increased cost, as well as the difficulty this would place on the Registrar's Office at a time when they need to use all their resources to prepare for the statewide election on November 8, 2005.

We anticipate bringing this item to the City Council for discussion on June 21, at which time the Mayor and Council will direct the City Attorney's Office to prepare the ordinance and resolution to effect the council's action. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Charles Abdelnour
City Clerk

cc: City Attorney
City Manager